

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of immunomodulating the T cell response in Staphylococcal  
5 bacteria is provided wherein an effective amount of the Map protein from  
*Staphylococcus aureus* is administered to a host to prevent or suppress the T cell  
response. The present method may be utilized with either the Map protein or an  
effective subdomain or fragment thereof such as the Map10 or Map19 protein. The  
present invention is advantageous in that suppression or prevention of the T cell  
10 response in a host can prevent or ameliorate a wide variety of the pathogenic  
conditions such as T cell lymphoproliferative disease and toxic shock syndrome  
wherein the overstimulation of T cells needs to be suppressed or modulated.

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